



1-305

3627

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Richard Humpert et al. :  
Serial No.: 09/890,203 :  
Atty. No.: 60,174-021 :  
Filed : October 5, 2001 :  
Title : SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR FUNCTIONAL UNIT :  
: 10/election w/ly car  
: 2P  
: 1-10-03  
: GROUP: 3627  
: EXAMINER: Saether

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

**Box Non-Fee Amendment**  
Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

**RECEIVED**

JAN 07 2003

**GROUP 3600**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement dated December 2, 2002, Applicant respectfully requests prosecution of Claims 1-22 with traverse. The Examiner indicates Claims 1-22 are drawn to a fastener, as recited in the claims "a function carrier." Applicant believes that Claims 1-22, including independent Claim 1 are drawn to a single species. Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claim 1 is a generic claim for a function carrier having a rivet sleeve.

Applicant retains the right to prosecute Claims 23-32 at a later time.

Applicant further provides drawings enclosed with this Response to assist the Examiner in evaluating the species set forth in Claims 1-22.

Although it is believed that no fee is due for the filing of this Response, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 08-2789 for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayments regarding this Response.

Applicant: Humpert, et al.

SN: 09/890,203

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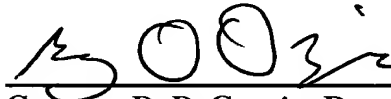
Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

January 2, 2003

Date



Gregory D. DeGrazia, Reg. No. 48,944

The Pinehurst Office Center, Suite #101

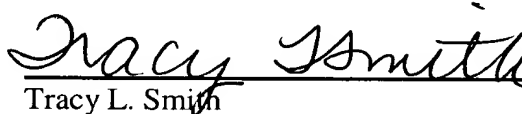
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**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that the enclosed **Response** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," Mailing Label No. **EV164144402US** and addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231, on **January 2, 2003**.



Tracy L. Smith